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A/RES/52/13
15 January 1998

Fifty-second session
Agenda item 156

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/52/L.4/Rev.1 and Add.1)*]

52/13. Culture of peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling the preamble to the Charter of the United Nations and the purposes and principles of the United Nations, and recalling also that the creation of the United Nations system itself, based upon universally shared values and goals, has been a major act towards transformation from a culture of war and violence to a culture of peace and non-violence,

Aware that the task of the United Nations to save future generations from the scourge of war requires transformation towards a culture of peace, which consists of values, attitudes and behaviours that reflect and inspire social interaction and sharing based on the principles of freedom, justice and democracy, all human rights, tolerance and solidarity, that reject violence and endeavour to prevent conflicts by tackling their root causes to solve problems through dialogue and negotiation and that guarantee the full exercise of all rights and the means to participate fully in the development process of their society,

Recalling its resolutions 50/173 of 22 December 1995 and 51/101 of 12 December 1996 on a culture of peace and 51/104 of 12 December 1996 on the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education and public information activities in the field of human rights,

Noting that the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on educational activities under the project entitled "Towards a culture of peace" with elements for a draft provisional declaration and programme of action on a culture of peace,[1] indicates that the transition from the culture of war to a culture of peace has been taken up as a priority by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and is also being promoted at many levels by the United Nations system as it enters the twenty-first century,

[1] A/52/292, annex.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[1] as transmitted by the Secretary-General and submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 51/101, which is set within the framework of United Nations actions for peace-building, including the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995-2004, and the United Nations Year for Tolerance, as well as the programmes of action of recent United Nations world conferences;

2. *Calls* for the promotion of a culture of peace based on the principles established in the Charter of the United Nations and on respect for human rights, democracy and tolerance, the promotion of development, education for peace, the free flow of information and the wider participation of women as an integral approach to preventing violence and conflicts, and efforts aimed at the creation of conditions for peace and its consolidation;

3. *Notes* that the report includes:

(*a*) Elements for a draft United Nations declaration on a culture of peace, including the historical basis, the meaning and significance of a culture of peace and the major fields and main actors for its promotion;

(*b*) Elements for a programme of action, including the relevant aims as well as the strategies and actions needed to implement each of those aims;

(*c*) A presentation of the progress of projects within the framework of the transdisciplinary project entitled "Towards a culture of peace";

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in coordination with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and taking into account the debate in the General Assembly, the specific suggestions of Member States and the comments, if any, of member States in the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its twenty-ninth session, to submit a consolidated report containing a draft declaration and programme of action on a culture of peace to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-third session an item entitled "Culture of peace".

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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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52/14. Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 41/11 of 27 October 1986, in which it solemnly declared the Atlantic Ocean, in the region between Africa and South America, the "Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic",

Recalling also its subsequent resolutions on the matter, including resolution 45/36 of 27 November 1990, in which it reaffirmed the determination of the States of the zone to enhance and accelerate their cooperation in the political, economic, scientific, cultural and other spheres,

Reaffirming that the questions of peace and security and those of development are interrelated and inseparable and that cooperation for peace and development among States of the region will promote the objectives of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic,

Aware of the importance that the States of the zone attach to the environment of the region, and recognizing the threat that pollution from any source poses to the marine and coastal environment, its ecological balance and its resources,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of the purposes and objectives of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic as a basis for the promotion of cooperation among the countries of the region;

2. *Calls upon* all States to cooperate in the promotion of the objectives established in the declaration of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic and to refrain from any action inconsistent with those objectives and with the Charter of the United Nations and relevant resolutions of the Organization, particularly action which may create or aggravate situations of tension and potential conflict in the region;

3. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[1] submitted in accordance with its resolution 51/19 of 14 November 1996;

4. *Recalls* the agreement reached at the third meeting of the States members of the zone, held at Brasilia in 1994, to encourage democracy and political pluralism and, in accordance with the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[2] to promote and defend all human rights and fundamental freedoms and to cooperate towards the achievement of those goals;

5. *Welcomes with satisfaction* the holding of the fourth meeting of the States members of the zone at Somerset West, South Africa, on 1 and 2 April 1996, and takes note of the Final Declaration, the decision on drug trafficking, the decision on the protection of the marine environment and the decision on illegal fishing activities in the zone, adopted at the meeting;

6. *Welcomes* the progress towards the full entry into force of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco),[3] and the conclusion of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba);[4]

7. *Also welcomes* the efforts of the Government of Angola to implement the Lusaka Protocol,[5] expresses its deep concern at the delay in fully implementing the "Acordos de Paz"[6] and the Lusaka Protocol, and calls upon the União Nacional para a Independência Total de Angola to fulfil immediately the tasks enumerated in the relevant Security Council resolutions, in particular resolutions 1118 (1997) of 30 June 1997, 1127 (1997) of 28 August 1997 and 1135 (1997) of 29 October 1997;

8. *Reaffirms* its willingness to contribute by all means at its disposal to an effective and lasting peace in Angola;

9. *Urges* the international community and all relevant international and private organizations to fulfil expeditiously their pledges to provide assistance to facilitate the demobilization and social reintegration of ex-combatants, the demining process, the resettlement of displaced persons and the reconstruction of the Angolan economy in order to consolidate the gains in the peace process;

10. *Welcomes with satisfaction* the return of peace to Liberia following the successful conduct of the July elections and the installation of the democratically elected Government in that country, and in that regard expresses its appreciation to the Economic Community of West African States, its Monitoring Group, the United Nations and other members of the international community for their efforts in the peaceful resolution of the Liberian conflict, and calls upon them to support efforts to consolidate peace in Liberia, including a viable framework for the mobilization of resources for reconstruction and development;

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[1] A/52/462.

[2] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

[4] See A/50/426.

[5] See *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-ninth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1994*, document S/1994/1441.

[6] Ibid., *Forty-sixth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1991*, document S/22609.

11. *Welcomes* the steps taken by the newly elected Government of Liberia towards the implementation of programmes to achieve genuine reconciliation and national unity and the formation of a broad-based government, and its commitment to promoting the protection of human rights and respect for the rule of law;

12. *Commends* the efforts of Member States and humanitarian organizations in rendering humanitarian assistance to Angola and Liberia, and urges them to continue to provide and to increase such assistance;

13. *Expresses concern* at the situation in Sierra Leone, condemns the *coup d'état* against the democratically elected Government by the military on 25 May 1997, and calls upon the military junta in Sierra Leone to fulfil its obligations under the peace plan agreed to at Conakry on 23 Oc' 97;[7]

14. *Commends* the initiatives of the Economic Community of West African State ..d of the Security Council in trying to resolve the situation, and calls on the international community to lend its support to those initiatives by faithfully implementing the various measures adopted in order to accelerate the return to peace and stability in Sierra Leone;

15. *Affirms* the importance of the South Atlantic to global maritime and commercial transactions and its determination to preserve the region for all peaceful purposes and activities protected by international law, in particular the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;[8]

16. *Welcomes* the offer by Argentina to host the fifth meeting of the States members of the zone in 1998;

17. *Requests* the relevant organizations, organs and bodies of the United Nations system to render all appropriate assistance that States of the zone may seek in their joint efforts to implement the declaration of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the implementation of resolution 41/11 and subsequent resolutions on the matter under review and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session, taking into account, *inter alia*, the views expressed by Member States;

19. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-third session the item entitled "Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic".

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[7] See S/1997/824, annex II. For the final text, see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-second Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1997*, document S/1997/824.

[8] *Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea*, vol. XVII (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.V.3), document A/CONF.62/122.

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52/15. Proclamation of the year 2000 as the International Year for the Culture of Peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/47 of 22 July 1997,

Proclaims the year 2000 as the International Year for the Culture of Peace.

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52/16. International Year of Thanksgiving, 2000

The General Assembly,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/46 of 22 July 1997,

Proclaims the year 2000 as the International Year of Thanksgiving.

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52/17. International Year of Volunteers, 2001

The General Assembly,

Welcoming the recommendation of the Economic and Social Council contained in its resolution 1997/44 of 22 July 1997,

Decides to take the action called for in that resolution, *inter alia*, proclaiming 2001 the International Year of Volunteers.

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